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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*Application of:

Joseph H. Sklar

Serial No.:

09/612,055

Filing Date:

07/07/2000

For:

LIGAMENT SHIM

Group Art Unit:

3732

Examiner:

Melba N. Bumgarner

Attorney's Docket No.:

SKLAR-21

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby makes the following documents of record in the above-identified application:

U.S. Patents

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 6,267,767, issued 07/31/2001 to Strobel et al.
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,899,938, issued 05/04/1999 to Sklar et al.

Copies of these documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (one page), are enclosed herewith. Applicant respectfully requests that these documents be fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application and printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicant also respectfully requests that a copy of Form PTO-1449 (one page), as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication.

The enclosed documents may have markings thereon. Applicant is not presently aware of the source of those markings, and no significance is meant to be attached thereto.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. If for any reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted by the Examiner by telephone in order that any deficiencies may be expeditiously remedied.

03/17/2004 WASFAW1 00000073 09612055

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SKLAR-21

A check in the amount of One Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$180.00) payable to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks also is enclosed herewith to cover the fee due in connection with this submission.

Please charge any additional fees due in connection with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this submission is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED	Respectfully submitted,
WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-	James A. Khiridan 3/11/0
1450, ON: March 11, 2004 (DATE OF DEPOSIT)	James A. Sheridan Registration No. 43,114
James A. Sheridan (NAME OF ATTORNEY)	Pandiscio & Pandiscio 470 Totten Pond Road Waltham, MA 02154
(SIGNATURE) (NAME GEATTORNEY) (SIGNATURE)	Tel. (781) 290-0060
March 11, 2004 (DATE OF SIGNATURE)	

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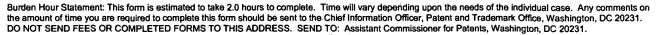
Complete if Known				
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First Named Inventor Joseph H. Sklar				
Group Art Unit	3732			
Examiner Name	Melba N. Bumgarner			
Attorney Docket Number	SKLAR-21			

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Paten	t Document Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	1	6,267,7	767	Strobel et al.	07-31-2001		
	2	5,899,9		Sklar et al.	05-04-1999		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	7
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.